DIEGO REDIVIVUS:

OR THE

Last WILL

AND

TESTAMENT

OF

Humphrey Wickham, Esq;

Alias WILLIAM MORREL,

alias BOWYER, &c.

WITH A

Full RELATION of his Notorious CHEATS and IMPOSTURES: Who dyed at Mr *Collins* Houſe, the Third of this Inſtant *January*, in the Pariſh of St. *Clement Danes*, &c.

LICENSED and Entred in the REGISTER-BOOK of the Company of Stationers.

LONDON, Printed for *Abel Roper*, at the *Mitre* near *Temple-Bar*. 1692.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THis is to give notice, That the Fine COFFIN, mentioned in the following Relation, is to be sold in *Ship-yard*, without *Temple-bar*.

The Last Will *and* Teſtament *of the pretended* Humphrey Wickham *Eſq; alias* William Morrel, *alias* Bowyer, *&c. with Annotations thereupon.*

THE Publick undoubtedly cannot be better entertained, than by the following Relation, of one of the moſt notorious Cheats as has been known in an Age, which has already made a very amazing Noiſe in the Town; and the Particulars whereof, may be no diſacceptable Entertainment.

A Perſon not over-well Clad, was ſeen ſtanding gazing about him in the Streets, over-againſt *Arundel*-Buildings in the *Strand*; but the gravity of his Age (being a Perſon between 50 and 60) invited the Curioſity of Mr. *Cullin* the Baker, to ask this unknown Perſon what he wanted? To which he replied, He wanted a Lodging. Upon this, Mr. *Cullin* very courteouſly made anſwer, He ſhould be welcome to his Houſe; which he very eaſily and readily accepted; and accordingly was received very kindly. Now having no extraordinary Stock of Money, *viz.* but Two Shillings in his Pocket, he was expoſed to the neceſſity of making uſe of ſome Romantick Narrative of his Quality and Condition, to make good his Quarters with ſo ſlender a Purſe, to hold out payment. Accordingly the Curioſity of his Landlady enquiring what Country-man he was? He replied, Of *Oxfordſhire*; that his Name was *Wickham*, a Perſon of a good Eſtate near *Banbury*;

and that the occasion of his coming to Town, was only to avoid the payment of 500 l. which he stood engaged for by Bond, in behalf of a Person that was run away, and had left him to pay that Money, and which truly he had made an Oath to himself he would never pay; not that the Summ was so considerable to a Man of his plentiful Fortune, only he was resolved to keep his Vow; and that had made him retire a little from being arrested for it.

The Affability and good Language of this Person of imaginary Quality, soon found Credit with his believing Landlord and Landlady, and no Cares was thought kind enough to a Person of his eminent Figure and Extraction. His first entrance into this indulgent Family was about a fortnight before *Christmas*, where he gained that daily ground, that no Respect could be sufficiently paid him: His little Pocket Strength signified nothing, for his Host was not a little exalted with the Honour of such a Guest under his Roof.

But, as Providence was pleased so order it, his Reign was ordain'd to be but short; for he soon fell into a Languishing Sickness, in which time neither Doctor, Apothecary, Nurse, or any other Assistance was wanting.

Now our pretended Captain, whatever other Faults he had, was resolv'd not to be guilty of Ingratitude, and accordingly made an ample Last Will and Testament, and most liberally gave even to many large Donations and Legacies to his kind Landlord, &c.

It was very remarkable, that during his Sickness, his Landlord, being Overseer of the Poor, had requested a kind Brother in Office, the Church-Warden, to pay a small Office of Christian Duty to this poor languishing Gentleman; who making him a condoling Visit, with wet Eyes and uplifted Hands, was so kind as to wish his

Worship's Soul everlasting Rest, which was seconded by many a repeated Sigh from the rest of the Condolers about him: And one more especially, having heard of this great Wind-fall, lamented much his Unhappiness, in not visiting this Gentleman, saying, *He was never born to do himself good, having lost by his Negligence at least* 1000 *l.* Also another eminent Man of the Parish, being dissatisfied that he did not come in for a Share with the rest of his Neighbours, went and told them, *That the Coroner ought to be sent for, and an Enquiry made how he died.*

All Care and Application signified but little, for his last *Exit* was drawing on; in which time, not in the least to shrink from his Character of Quality, he still kept up the Honourable Figure he had so long presented; and accordingly made most prodigious Protestations of Good-will and Acknowledgments to the Family, avowing that the few Hundreds he had bequeathed them, was nothing to what he would do for 'em, if please God to lengthen his Life to serve them and theirs.

And now having performed the Part of a good Patron and Friend, as his last Legacies do sufficiently testifie; it was resolved to be argued a Christian too, and thereupon requested the taking the Sacrament: To which, being obliged (with what Integrity you'll find by the Sequel) with a grave Countenance to the very last, he immediately ready to receive the Sacrament; and upon so serious an Undertaking, was pleased to put a Case of Conscience to the Minister, viz. having made a Vow never to pay the 500 *l.* he stood engaged for, Whether he was obliged to keep his Vow, or not? To which being answered in the Negative, That he was obliged to pay his Debts, notwithstanding his rash

rash Vow. He made answer, That truly now drawing near Heaven, he considered the pains, and acquiesced with his Ghostly Monitor; and thereupon inserted the 500 *l.* into the Will.

This piece of extraordinary Justice being perform'd with a very composed and setled mind he left this troublesom World on *Sunday* the Third Instant, seeming very well contented to part with his great Riches and Lands, for the more valuable consideration of future Happiness.

Now I must do the Family this Right, That notwithstanding the great Sums they gain'd by so ample a Testament, and such bounteous Legacies, however their sorrow for the lamented Departure of so worthy a Gentleman was very hearty and cordial: Nay, some are of Opinion, that instead of diminishing (as Sorrow generally wears off) theirs, on the contrary is daily encreasing.

But perhaps nothing was so unkind as excluding the poor Prentice from visiting the sick Gentleman. For, alas, the poor Boy has been heard most dolefully to bewail the unkindness of his Masters; for undoubtedly the worthy Gentleman would have left him enough to have set him up, had he been amongst the Throng of Visitants, who all tasted so highly of his extravagant Liberality.

Now to assure you that the Kindness of his Executors continued beyond his Death, they thought themselves so far indebted to his Memory, that not only the Embalmer was sent for, but likewise a Coffin, price 12 *l.* was made, and all little enough for so generous a Patron, so much as Mourning, and Rings, and what else bespoken, &c.

But

But before these Honourable Exequies could be performed, an unhappy Letter from the True *Humphrey Wickham* Esq; a Person of a great Estate and Reputation, detected the whole Fraud and Delusion, and the Remains of your *Quondam* Person of Honour is to be committed to Earth, in a Coffin, price 4 *s.* with Shrowd and other Funeral Materials accordingly.

You are hereby informed, That this grand Impostor, whose true Name was *William Morrell* alias *Bawyer*, formerly a Surgeon in *Banbury*, had been two Months a Guest at Mr. *Wickham's*, and thereby so acquainted with his Family as enabled him to personate the Cheat so artificially, and so we leave him.

His WILL.

IN the Name of God, Amen, I *Humphrey Wickham* of *Swaclift*, in the County of *Oxon* Esq; being sick and weak in Body, but of sound Mind and Memory, do make this my last WILL and TESTAMENT, revoking all Wills by me formerly made: And as touching such Worldly Estate as God hath been pleased to bless me withal, I do hereby give and bequeath the same in manner following:

Imprimis, I do give, devise, and bequeath to my Kinsman *William Wickham*, Son of *George Wickham*, of *Gazington* in the County of *Oxon*, all that my Mansion-House of *Swaclift* aforesaid; and all the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments thereunto belonging, to hold unto him the said *William Wickham*, and his Heirs for ever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto *John Cullin*, Son of *Thomas Cullin*, of the Parish of St. *Clement Danes*, in the County of *Middlesex*, Baker, all that my impropriated Parsonage of *Sowgrave*, in the County of *Northampton*, with the Rents, Issues, and Profits thereof.

Item.

Item, I give unto *Annie Cullin*, Sister of the said *John Cullin*, the Summ of Two hundred and fifty Pounds.

Item, I give unto *Thomas Cullin*, Son of the said *Thomas Cullin*, the Summ of Three hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto *Dorothy Halford*, Daughter of *Thomas Halford* of *Halford*, in the County of *Warwick*, the Summ of Two hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto *Richard Davis*, Son of *William Davis* of the said Parish of *St. Clements Danes*, the Summ of Four hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto *William Davis*, Son of the said *William Davis*, the Summ of Two hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto *Anne Fowker*, for her Care and Diligence in Looking after me in my Sickness, the Summ of One hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto *Robert Croker*, Son of *William Croker* of *Sanford*, in the said County of *Oxon* (being my God-son) the Sum of Five hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto the said *William Croker*, the Summ of Five hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto *Robert Penniston*, Son of Sir *Thomas Penniston* and younger Brother to Sir *Pennistis Penniston* of *Cornhill*, in the said County of *Oxon*, the Summ of Three hundred Pounds.

Item, I give unto *Mrs. Jane Penniston*, Sister of the said *Mr. Robert Penniston*, the Summ of Two hundred Pounds.

Item, I do hereby give, devise, and bequeath, all my Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments whatsoever, called by the Name of *Apple tree Ducy*, in *Cropredy*, in the County of *Northampton*, unto *John Brooking* of *Rasby* in the County of *Durch*, Esquire, and the said *William Davis* Senior, and *Thomas Cullin* Senior,

and

and the Survivor of them, and their Heirs, and the Survivor of them upon Truſt and Confidence Neverthelesſs, that they the ſaid *John Brooking*, *William Davis*, and *Thomas Cullin*, ſhall ſell and diſpoſe of the ſame; and out of the Money thereby raiſed, pay, or cauſe to be paid, the reſpective Legacies herein before bequeathed unto the ſaid *Anne Cullin*, *Thomas Cullin* Jun. *Dorothy Halford*, *Richard Davis*, *William Davis* Jun. and *Anne Fowkes*. And whereas I have herein before bequeathed unto my Kinſman *William Wickham*, and his Heirs, all my Manſion-Houſe at *Swaclift* aforeſaid, with the Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments thereunto belonging; my true Will and Meaning is, That the ſame Deviſe is upon this ſpecial Truſt and Confidence, That the ſaid *William Wickham* ſhall pay, or cauſe to be paid, the ſeveral Legacies herein before bequeathed unto the ſaid *Rob. Croker*, and *Wal. Croker*, *Robert Penniſton* and *Jane Penniſton*; and alſo pay and diſcharge one Bond for the Principal Sum of five hundred Pounds, with Intereſt, which I became bound for and with *Thomas Walker*, to one *Thomas Irons*, any thing herein before contained to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding; and alſo that he the ſaid *William Wickham*, ſhall out of his Legacy, and Lands, and Premiſes aforeſaid, to him deviſed, pay, or cauſe to be paid unto my Executors hereafter named, the Sum of Five hundred Pounds, to be by them beſtowed, diſtributed, or employed for the uſe and benefit of the Poor of the Pariſh of *Swaclift* aforeſaid, in ſuch manner as they, or the major part of them ſhall think fit and convenient.

Item, I give and bequeath unto the ſaid *John Brooking* out of the Moneys that ſhall be raiſed of the Sale of the ſaid Lands and Tenements,

called *Apple tree Ducy* aforeſaid, the Summ of Five hundred Pounds: And all the reſt and reſidue of the Moneys that ſhall be thereby raiſed. I do hereby give and bequeath unto the ſaid *William Davies* Senior, and *Thomas Cullin* Senior, to be equally divided between them and the Survivor of them.

Item, I give and bequeath unto *Alice Cullin*, Wife of the ſaid *Thomas Cullin* Senior, the Sum of Six hundred Pounds to her own proper Uſe and Diſpoſal.

Item, I give and bequeath in like manner the Summ of Six hundred Pounds unto *Jane Davis*, the Wife of the ſaid *VVilliam Davis*.

Item, I give unto the ſaid *Robert Croker* and *VVill. Croker*, the Summ of Ten Pounds a-piece to buy them Mourning: and alſo to each of them a Ring of Twelve Shillings.

Item, I give unto *Jane Croker* and *Mary Croker*; and alſo to the ſaid *Robert Peniſton*, and *Jane Peniſton*, and all other my Legatees herein before mentioned, and to every of them the Summ of Ten Pounds a-piece to buy them Mourning, and a Ring of Twelve Shillings.

Item, Whereas I have the Sum of Seven hundred Pounds, lying at Intereſt in the hands of Mr. *Ambroſe Holbitch*, in the name of *Oliver Charles*, my Servant, I do hereby give and bequeath the ſame to and amongſt my Four Servants, *Oliver Charles*, *John Harbert*, *Sarah VVinn*, and *Margery Smith*, and the Survivor of them, to be equally divided amongſt them, ſhare and ſhare alike.

Item, I give and bequeath my Three Geldings, and all my Accoutrements belonging to them unto the ſaid *John Brookeing*, *VVilliam Davis* Senior, and *Thomas*

Thomas Cullin, Sen. *viz.* my Bright Bay Gelding to the ſaid *Thomas Cullin*, and my Black Gelding to the ſaid *William Davis*, and my Dapple-grey Gelding to the ſaid *John Brooking*. All the Arrears of Rent in my Tenants Hands at the time of my Deceaſe I do hereby freely acquit and diſcharge. And all the reſt and Reſidue of my Perſonal Eſtate, not herein before devised, after my Debts, Legacies and Funeral Expences, paid and diſcharged, I do hereby give and bequeath unto my ſaid Kinſman *William Wickham*.

And, laſtly, I do hereby nominate, conſtitute and appoint the ſaid *William Wickham*, *John Brooking*, *William Davis* Senior, and *Thomas Cullin* Senior, Executors of this my Will; hereby revoking and making void all other, and former Will or Wills by me made.

In Witneſs whereof I the ſaid *Humphrey Wickham* have to this my laſt Will, containing one ſide of a Sheet of Paper, and almoſt half the back thereof, ſet my Hand and Seal this Twenty ſeventh day of *December*. *Anno Dom.* 1691. *Humphrey Wickham*.

Signed, Sealed, Publiſhed and Declared in the preſence of us, with the Words (*Will. Wickham*) being firſt interlined, *Rob. Smith*, *Jo. Chapman*, *Rich. Chapman*, *Mart. Pinckard*.

I, the above-named *Humphrey Wickham*, having omitted out of my Will above-mentioned, the Diſpoſition of my Eſtate in *Huntingtonſhire*, do hereby make this Addition to, and part of my ſaid Will, in manner following. I give and bequeath all my Lands, Tenements and Hereditaments, called *Pryor's* Farm, and all other my Eſtate in *Hollywell* and *Needingworth*, or elſe where, in the ſaid County of *Huntington*, unto the above-named *John Brooking*, *William Davis* Senior, and

and *Tho. Cullin* Sen. and the Survivor of them, and their Heirs, and the Heirs of the Survivor of them, under this special Trust and Confidence, that the said *Jo. Brooking*, *William Davis*, and *Thomas Cullen*, shall sell and dispose of the same; and out of the Moneys thereby raised, pay, or Cause to be paid the respective Legacies hereafter named, *viz.* I give and bequeath, to *Humphrey Longford* the sum of six hundred pounds, and to his Sister *Mary Longford* the like sum of six hundred pounds.

Item, I give and bequeath unto the said *Tho. Cullin* Sen. the further Summ of 800 *l.* and all the Remainder of the Moneys thereby raised, I give and bequeath unto the said *Will. Davis* Sen. and *Jane* his Wife, and the Survivor of them.

Item, Whereas I have by Will above-said, given unto *John Cullin*, Son of the said *Thomas Cullin*, the impropriated Parsonage of *Sowgrave*; my true meaning is, That I do give and devise the same to the said *John Cullin*, and his Heirs for ever. In Witness whereof, I the said *Humphrey Wickham* have to this Condicil Addition, or further part of my said Will, set my Hand and Seal, this Twenty eighth Day of *December*, Anno Dom. 1691. *Humphrey Wickham.*

Signed, Sealed, Published, and Declared, in the Presence of us, *Robert Smith*, *John Chapman*, *Rich. Chapman*, *Martin Pinkard*,

Probatum fuit hum. Testium. cum Codicillo eidem annex. coram Venerab. Vir. Henrico Eaueonberge Legum Doctore, Surr. Venerab. & Egregii Viri Dom. Richardi Raines Militis, Legem etiam Doctoris Curiæ Prærogativæ Cantuar. Magist. &c. Quarto die Mensis Januarii, Anno Dom. (Stilo Angliæ, 169[illegible]. Juramentis Willielmi Davis, & Thomæ Cullen, duorum ex Executor. &c. Quibus, &c. de bene & fidel. Administrand. eadem ad Sancta Dei Evangelia Jurat. Reservata potestate similem Com. faciendi Willielmo Wickham & Johanni Brooking alteri Executor. cum venerint seu eorum alter venerit quand. petitur.

FINIS.